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however the merit of being the first discoverers of this useful application of moss.

Dr. Westring of Stockholm, many years ago, noticed it among other properties of mosses, and lichens, particularly relative to dyeing, in a paper inserted in the Transactions of the Royal Academy of Stockholm, wherein he states that they are used in several places for stuffing chairs, and sofas, instead of horse hair, and that the kinds most proper for this purpose are the *Lich Chalybeiformis*, *L. Barbatus*, and *L. Plicatus*.

Improved File for letters and receipts.

Trans. Soc. Arts.

A voucher cannot be disengaged from the common file without defacing it, by cutting it off, or by removing many others to get at it: and to return it to its proper place, is attended with more trouble and inconvenience. All this is avoided by the file contrived by Mr. White, which is perfectly simple and efficacious, and can cost little more than the common file.

Mr. White's file consists of a small metal tube, just large enough to admit the wire of the file, with a convex circular plate soldered to its lower end, to keep the papers from slipping off, in the centre of which a hollow screw is tapped to admit a screw on the lower end of the wire; which is of the usual size, and length, and hooked and pointed at its top in the common manner to receive the papers.

When any paper is wanted from this file (instead of taking off those above it, which cannot be replaced without much loss of time and trouble) the papers above it are to be slipped up towards the hook, the wire must then be unscrewed and removed with the papers upon it. The paper wanted may then be taken off the tube; the wire be put into its former place and screwed fast, and the other papers be drawn down the tube as before. To return the voucher, the same operation is to be repeated, and the voucher restored to its proper place.

The upper edges of the tube should be made conical with sharp edges,

and to fit the wire closely to admit papers to pass over it with more facility.

The Society of Arts presented Mr. White, with their silver medal for this invention.

Remarks... This contrivance will be found very useful in counting houses and offices. Some for the same purpose, that is effected by it, paste their receipts in books; but a less troublesome way is to pin them together in the order of their dates, and fold them together in the manner of eastern manuscripts, and keep them in port folios.

Wire files cannot be conveniently put in drawers, where all vouchers of consequence should be kept, it may therefore be of use to state a method of applying the principle of the above invention to a flexible file of silk bobbin or cord, which has just occurred to the writer; which is to have in the middle of the bobbin a small cylindrical clasp, such as is used for ladies' necklaces, which will then admit the papers to be separated and united again on it in the same manner as on Mr. White's file, above described.

Cheap method of teaching to write, by copies engraved on slates, by Mr. T. Warren of Buckingham street, London.

Trans. Soc. Arts.

These slates have horizontal parallel lines engraved on them at regular intervals, similar to those ruled on common writing copies; one of the small letters of the alphabet is engraved at the head of every second space, as a copy which the writer is to imitate. The numerals from one to nine are engraved in a reversed position in the intervals between the lines for the letters, so that on turning the slate, the learner may copy the figures in the same manner. In each case he may either copy the character at the head of each line, or may continue to copy a single one on all the lines.

Larger slates are prepared with examples in addition and subtraction;—these lessons may be varied at the pleasure of the master, by the methods pointed out in the following